



# Northwest Valley Freeway Improvements



April 25, 2007  
Grand Democrats, Sun City Grand



# ADOT Northwest Valley Project Partners



City of Phoenix





# Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)

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- In 2003, Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) developed \$15.8 billion Regional Transportation Plan
- In 2004, voters approved Proposition 400
  - Provided funding needed to implement Regional Transportation Plan
  - Extension of 1985 voter-approved plan
  - Funded by half-cent sales tax



# What is the Regional Transportation Plan?

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- A Partnership between ADOT, MAG, local governments, Valley Metro and Valley Metro Rail to:
  - Manage regional transportation programs
  - Coordinate project implementation
  - Develop finance strategies
  - Foster communication and public involvement
  - Facilitate regional collaboration

**Local & Tribal Governments**

**Business & Community Groups**

**Citizens**

INPUT

**Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG)**

Develops Regional Transportation Plan

# Regional Transportation Planning Process

**Arizona State Legislature**

Approves plan to go to voters

**Prioritizes Projects**

**Oversees to ensure performance standards**

**Citizens**

Approve Funding for Regional Transportation Plan\*

**ADOT**

Implements highway projects in Regional Transportation Plan

**Federal Highway Administration**

Oversees ADOT compliance  
Provides federal share funding

\*Maricopa County voters approved current Regional Transportation Plan in November 2004.



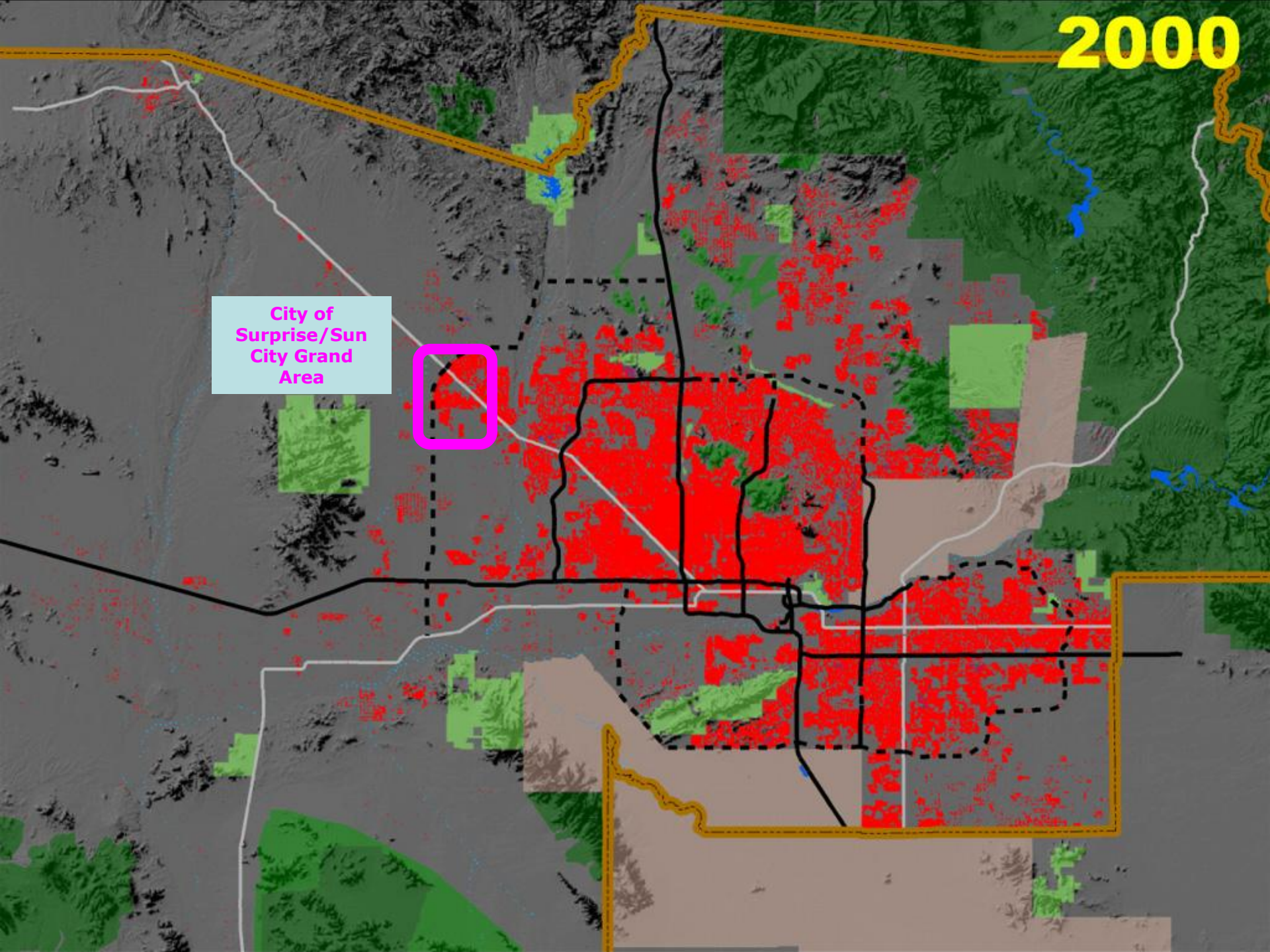
# Why was a Regional Transportation Plan Needed?

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- To efficiently pool and prioritize resources
- To get buy-in from all communities and agencies for a balanced program
- To meet increasing needs of the community:
  - Valley population projected to increase from 3.7 million to 5.7 million by 2025

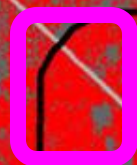
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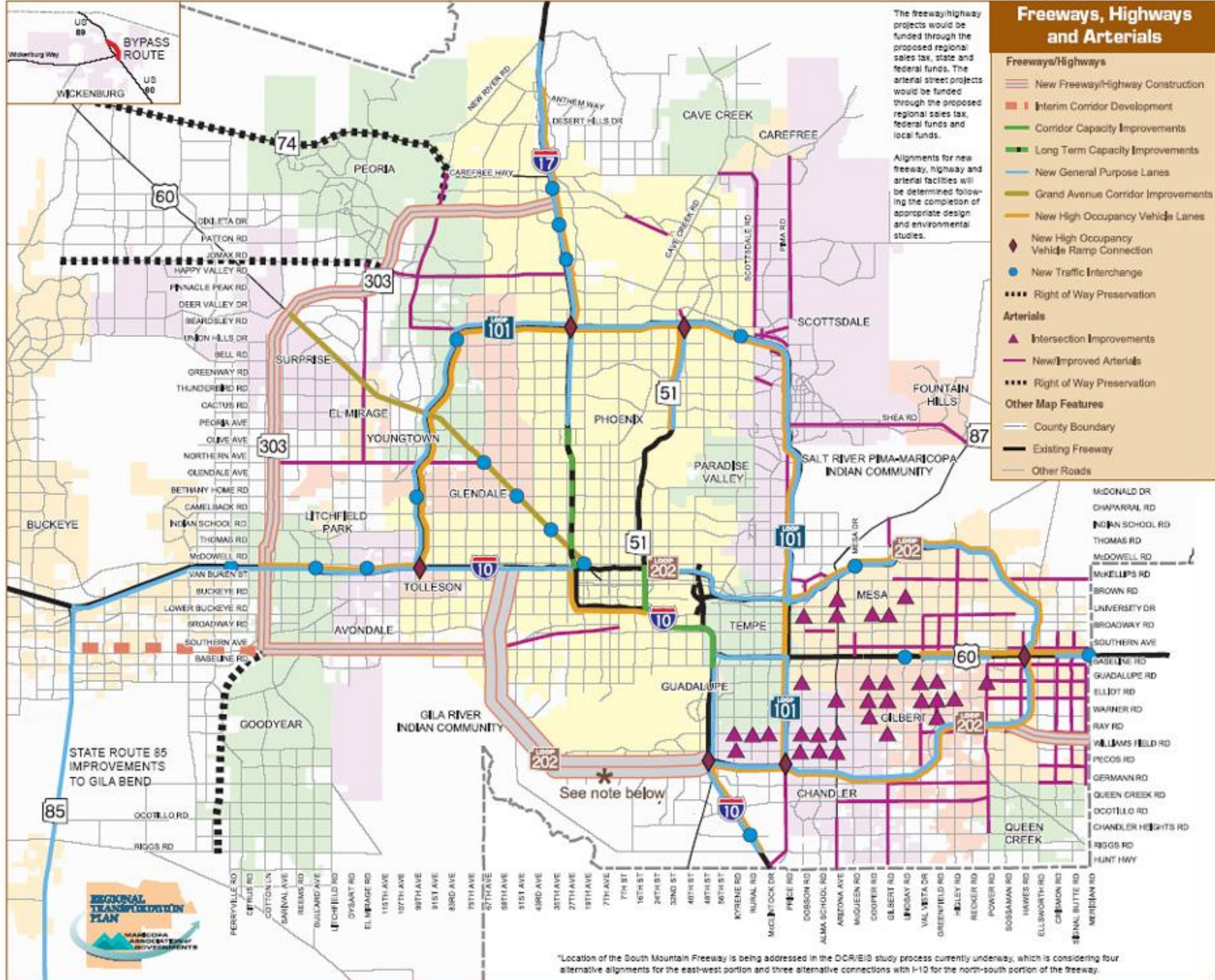
City of  
Surprise/Sun  
City Grand  
Area



2030

City of  
Surprise/Sun  
City Grand  
Area







# MAG's Role: Create the Plan

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- Develop Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and conduct regional transportation planning
- Set priorities for scheduling and funding
- Approve accelerations and cost changes to RTP
- Approve air quality analysis on all regional transportation projects



# ADOT's Role: Deliver the Plan

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- Implement RTP Freeway Component
- Conduct studies to identify/evaluate alternatives
- Coordinate environmental reviews
- Acquire right-of-way
- Design and construct freeways
- Maintain freeways
- Approve Regional Freeway enhancements



# FHWA's Role: Oversight

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- Serve as lead federal agency
- Participate in study process
- Provide document review and approval
- Provide funding



# City of Surprise's Role: Transportation Partner

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- Maintain existing city roads
- Plan, design and construct new city roads and improvements
- Mayor and City Council:
  - Represent Surprise residents in MAG planning and prioritizing discussions
  - Collaborate with ADOT on enhancements



# Public's Role: Input

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- Learn about multi-modal options
- Support transportation planning
- Provide input on routing, corridors and development



# Managing the Existing Transportation System

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- Population Growth:
  - ADOT does not control land development
  - ADOT cannot require developers to pay for roads
- Rising Costs
- Environmental Issues/Studies
- "NIMBY"
- Transit
  - Commuter/heavy rail options currently under study



# Grand Avenue Widening Project

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- Scope of current project includes:
  - Study design concepts to widen from current 4-lane to continuous 6-lane arterial street
  - Investigate and document environmental impacts
  - Recommend preferred design alternative



# Planned Improvements US 60 (GRAND AVENUE)



## LEGEND

-  Widening Project
-  General Improvements

## Planned Improvements

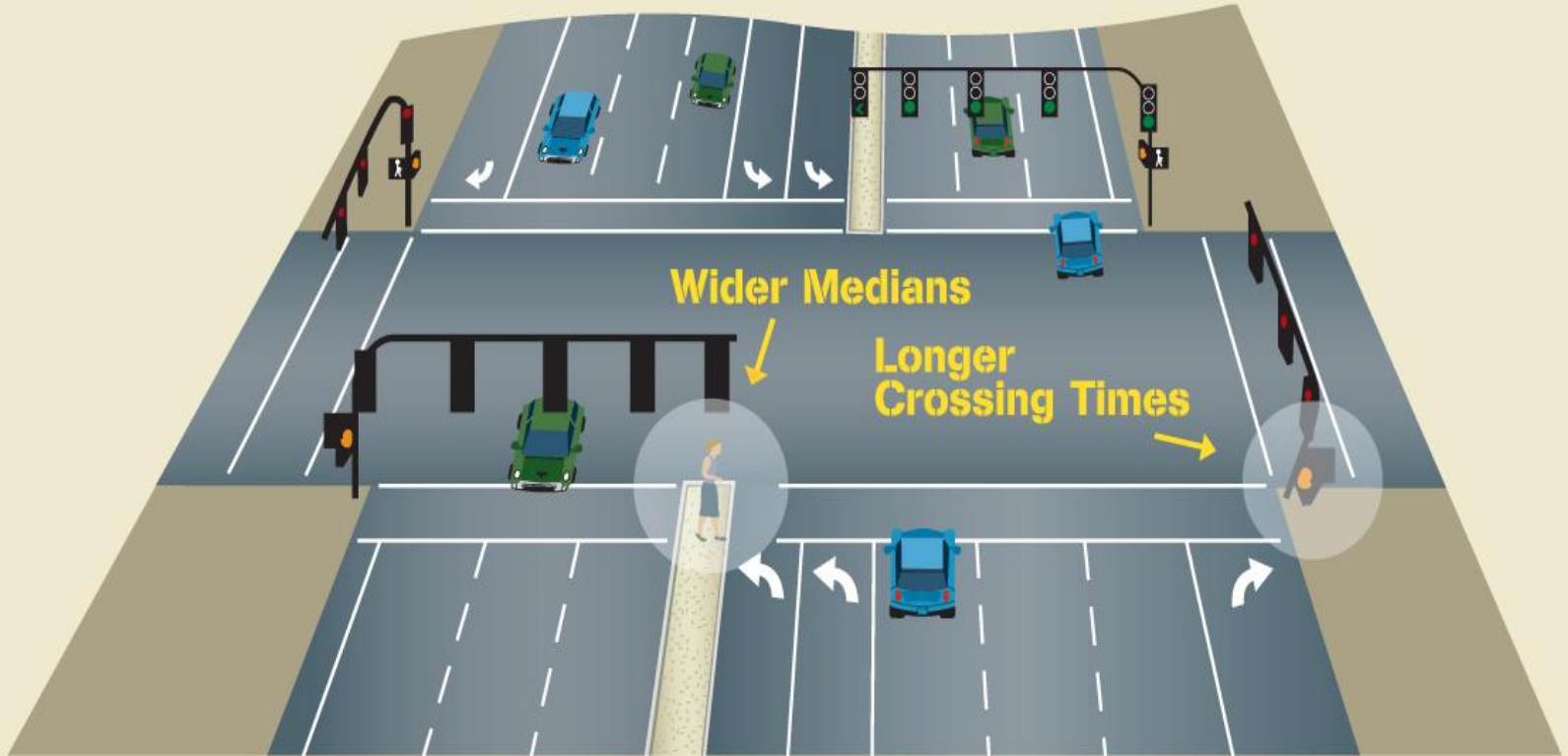
- A** 99th to 83rd Avenues
- B** Loop 303 to 99th Avenue
- C** Loop 101 (Agua Fria Freeway) to McDowell Road\*
- D** Loop 101 (Agua Fria Freeway) to Van Buren Street\*

## Regional Transportation Plan Phases

Phase I	2006 -2010
Phase III	2016-2020
Phase II	2011-2015
Phase IV	2021-2025

\*Project pending  
environmental process

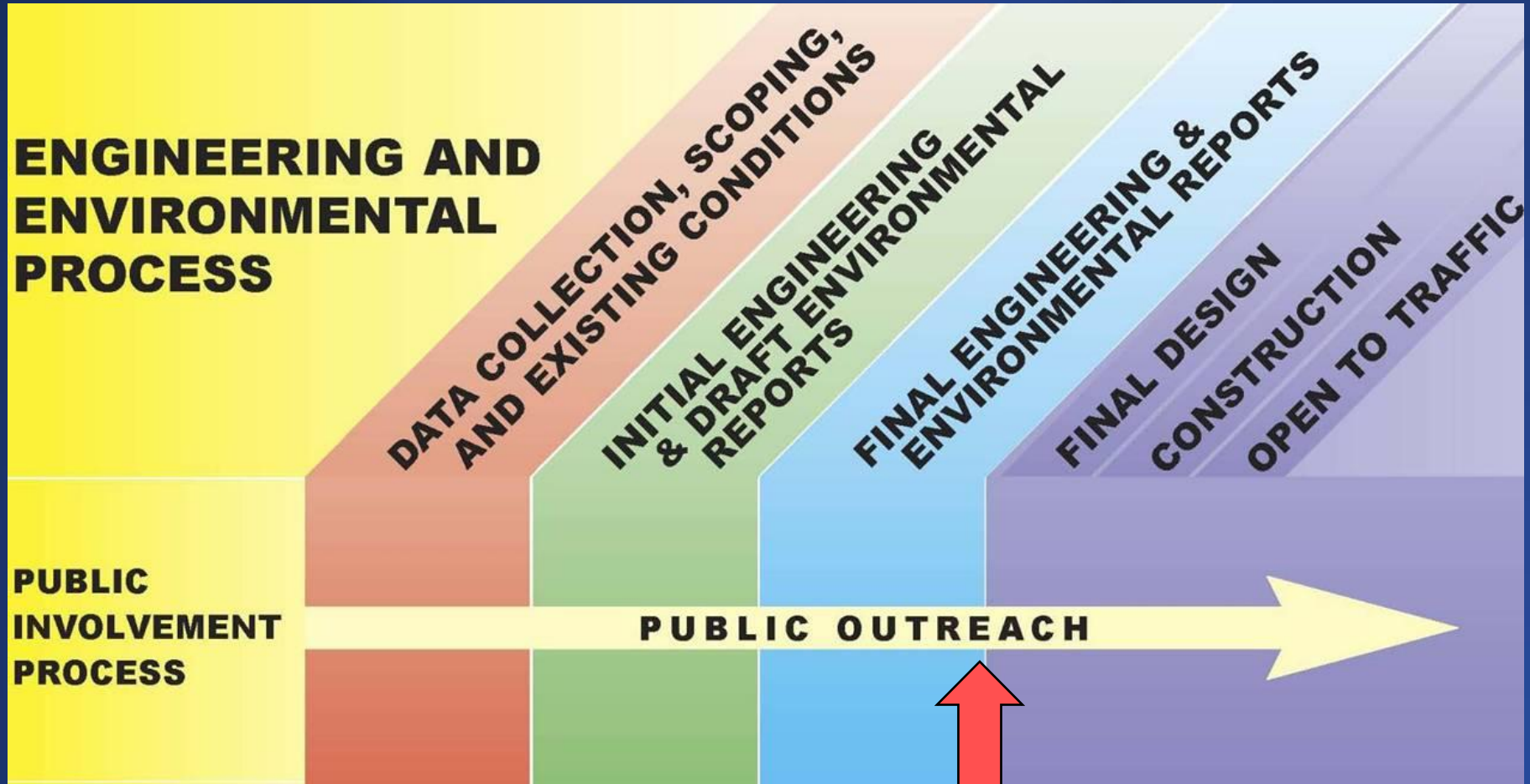




## Grand Avenue Intersection Improvements



# Grand Avenue Widening Project





# Why Widen Grand Avenue?

- Primary urban arterial connecting:
  - Cities of Surprise, Peoria & Wickenburg
  - Towns of El Mirage and Youngtown
  - Unincorporated areas of Maricopa County, including Sun City/Sun City West
- Vital link in statewide highway system
  - Will become more important as growth continues to west and southwest
- Serves as link between Metro Phoenix and Las Vegas / I-15



# Long-term Needs for Grand Avenue Corridor

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- Accommodate typical weekday traffic projections
  - 25,900 vehicles daily (west end) by 2010
  - 40,800 to 57,100 vehicles daily by 2025
- Improve...
  - Safety
  - Drainage
  - Appearance



# Future Steps for US 60 / Grand Avenue Corridor

- ADOT will:
  - Initiate a feasibility study for RTP Phase II (2011-2015) improvements this summer
  - Form a working group with representation from Grand Avenue communities
  - Work with Grand Avenue Corridor Working Group to obtain community input for study



# Loop 303 Freeway Corridor Development

- Future half-loop around West Valley
- Phased funding for a six-lane freeway
- Development to occur in stages:
  - Happy Valley to I-17 (construct interim roadway)
  - US 60/Grand Ave to I-17 (complete to six lanes)
  - I-10 to US 60 (complete to six lanes)
  - SR 801 to I-10 (new freeway)
- Interim roadway (I-10 to I-17) by 2010
- Full completion from SR 801 to I-17 by 2017

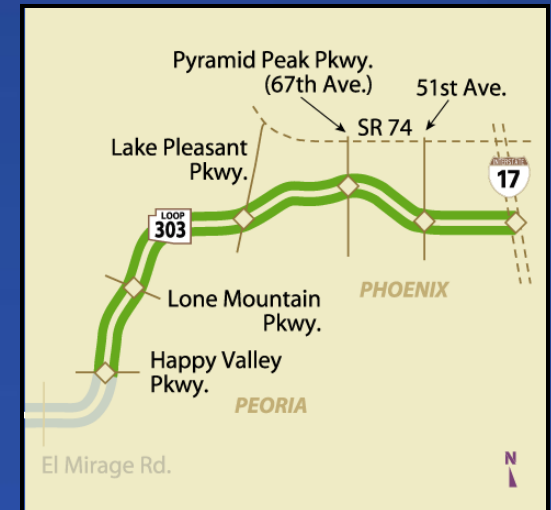
# Loop 303 Freeway Corridor Development





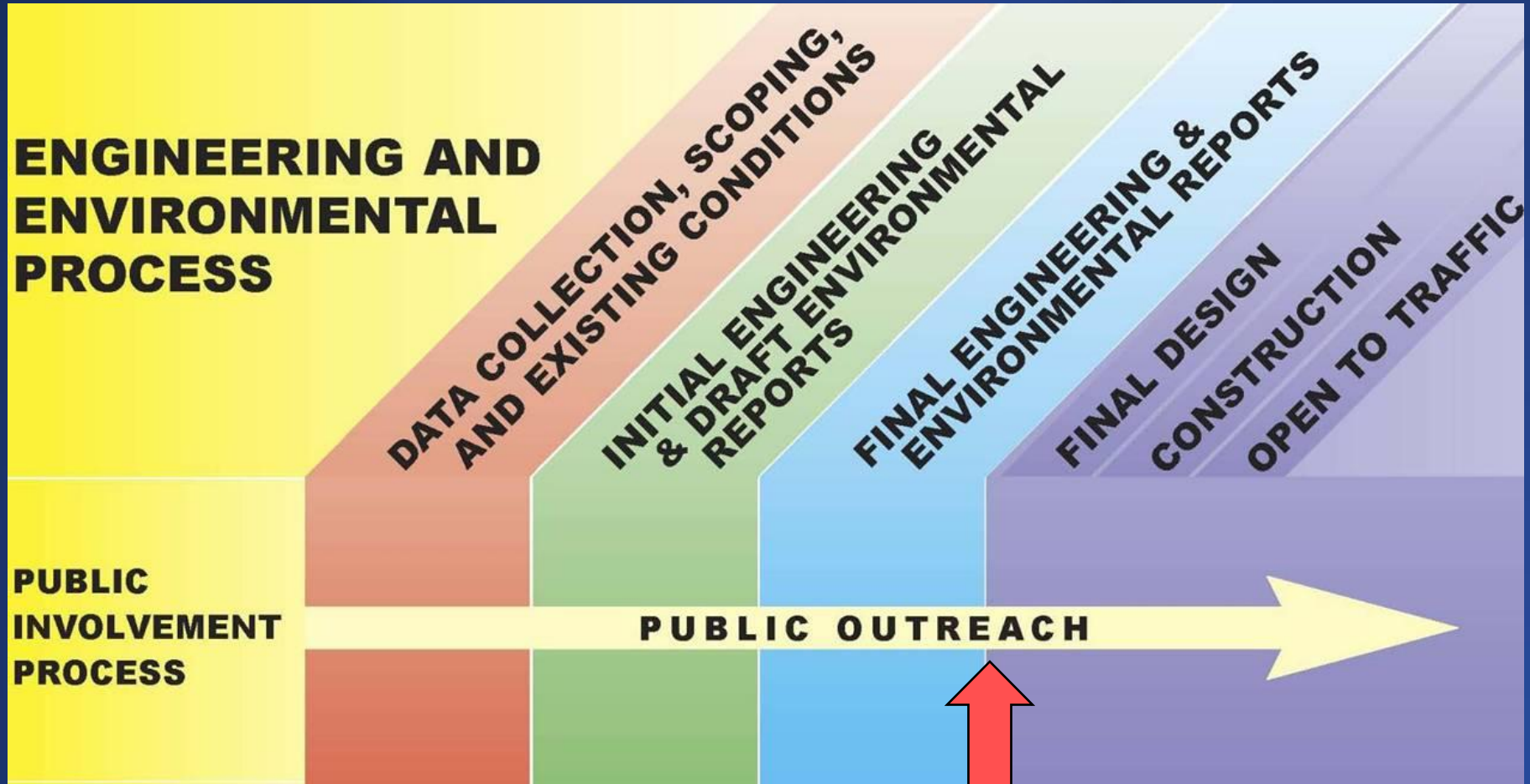
# Loop 303 Happy Valley Parkway to I-17

- Interim development
  - 14-mile, interim four-lane divided roadway
  - Includes interim interchange with I-17
  - \$200 million
  - Final Design to begin in 2007
  - Construction scheduled to start in 2008 and be completed by 2010





# Loop 303 Happy Valley Parkway to I-17

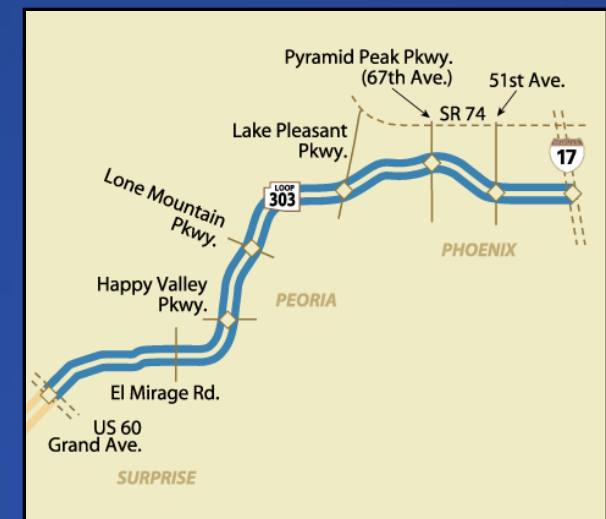


Project Status



# Loop 303 US 60 to I-17

- Second stage project will complete 20-mile section to a six-lane divided freeway
- Interchanges planned at major streets
  - None planned between US 60 and El Mirage Road
- Freeway-to-freeway interchange at I-17 and Loop 303
- \$305 million in RTP Phase II (2011-2015)
- Completion anticipated in 2017

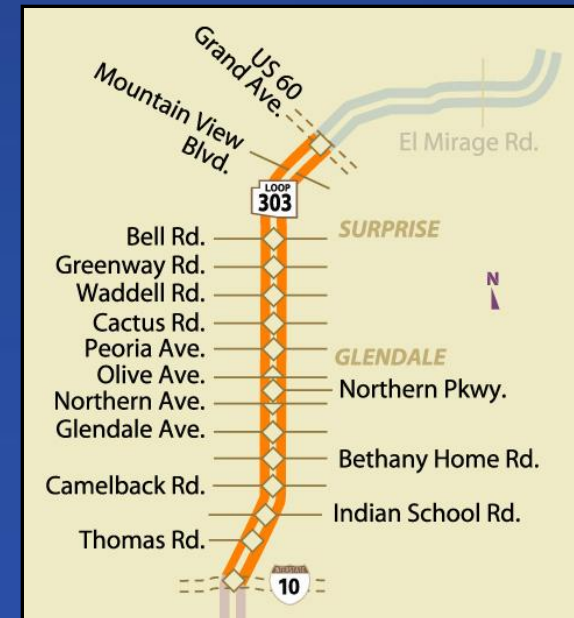




# Loop 303 I-10 to US 60

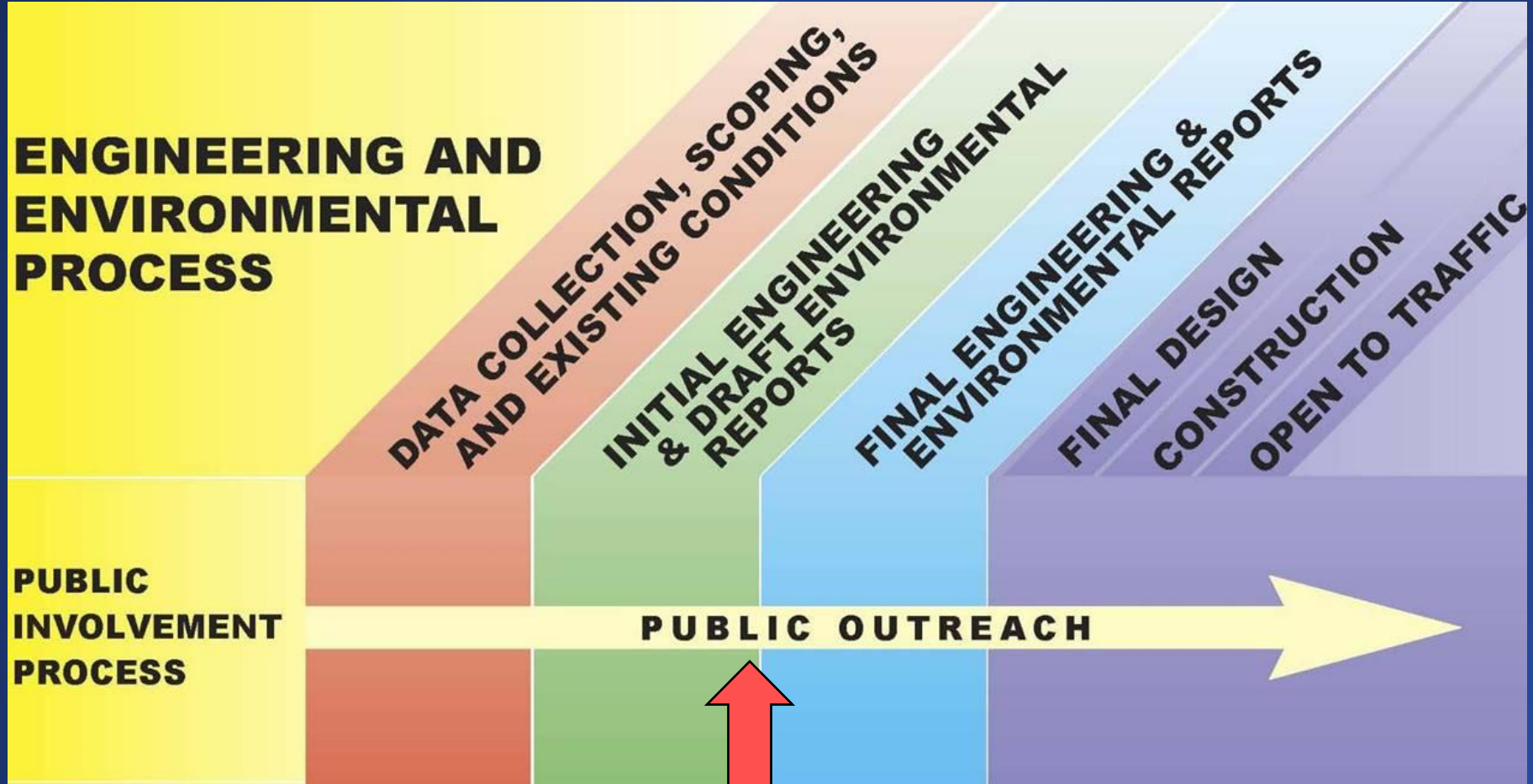
- Project\* converts existing 16-mile two-lane roadway to a six-lane divided freeway
- Interchanges at major arterial streets plus multilevel interchange at Loop 303 and US 60
- Freeway-to-freeway interchange with I-10
- \$545 million in RTP Phase II (2011-2015)
- Completion anticipated in 2017

\*Project pending outcome of environmental process.





# Loop 303 I-10 to US 60





# Statewide Transportation Acceleration Needs (STAN) Funding

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- Late 2006, state approved \$22 million to construct\* some Loop 303 projects at least five years ahead of schedule, including:
  - New bridge over Loop 303 at Bell Road
  - Interim at-grade intersection with Bell Road on west side of existing Loop 303
  - Improvements at Cactus and Waddell roads to:
    - Enhance driver safety
    - Minimize potential impacts of future Loop 303 construction on the cross streets and adjacent development



# Loop 101 Agua Fria Freeway Corridor Development

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- Interstate 10 to US 60 (Grand Avenue)
  - Add a new HOV lane each direction  
RTP Phase III (2016-2020)
  - Add a general purpose lane each direction  
Phase IV (2021-2025)
- US 60 (Grand Avenue) to Interstate 17
  - Add a new general purpose lane and an HOV lane each direction in Phase IV
- Landscape improvements
  - Additional landscaping from Northern to 31<sup>st</sup> avenues in fall 2007



# Loop 101 Agua Fria Freeway Corridor Development *(continued)*

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- Cable median barriers
  - Upgrade barriers to comply with new highway standards
- Traffic Interchange improvements at:
  - Bethany Home Road
    - complete north half-diamond by fall
  - Beardsley Road extension/connection
    - in partnership with City of Peoria
  - Union Hills Drive
  - Thunderbird Road



# Loop 101 Agua Fria

## Freeway Projects





# For More Information...

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**[www.ValleyFreeways.com](http://www.ValleyFreeways.com)**

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Northwest Valley

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